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LETTER DATED 17 DECEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 16 December 1993 from Mr. Mohammed Said al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the dropping of provocative leaflets on urban and rural areas in southern Iraq by United States warplanes.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 16 December 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to refer to my letter of 9 December 1993 addressed to you concerning the aggressive and provocative acts being carried out by the Government of the United States of America and the violation of Iraqi airspace by United States warplanes flying out of Saudi Arabian territory and dropping provocative leaflets on urban and rural areas in southern Iraq, particularly the Basra area.

In this second letter, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the United States Government has repeated its provocative and aggressive actions, inasmuch as United States warplanes have committed the following assaults:

1. 1030 hours on 10 December 1993, hostile United States warplanes, flying out of Saudi Arabian territory, dropped hostile and provocative leaflets on areas in Dhi Qar Governorate.

2. At 1000 hours on 11 December 1993, United States warplanes dropped provocative leaflets hostile to Iraq and the Iraqi people on a number of areas in Basra Governorate.

3. At 1240 hours on 12 December 1993, a United States remote-controlled aircraft dropped inflammatory leaflets on a subdistrict in Basra Governorate.

I register in this letter a strong protest against the unlawful assaults carried out by the United States Government against Iraq and the Iraqi people. The continuation of these acts increasingly exposes the criminal nature of the policy of the United States Government and its odious colonialist tendency.

Our people views with disapproval and contempt the unlawful conduct emanating from the Government of the United States of America and also feels regret and amazement that the Government of a major Power that claims to be civilized is engaging in what resembles brigandry.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq
Baghdad, 3 Rajab A.H. 1414
16 December A.D. 1993

Enclosures

I

Brother combatant, proud son of the Euphrates:

The mission of the Iraqi soldier is to defend Iraq, not to kill Iraqis. If you want to do your duty towards your country and your people, you must be on the side of the Iraqi people in the south, not against it.

He who does not die by poison
dies by other means

II

For many years Saddam has been trying to destroy the reputation and honour of the Iraqi Army by humiliating it and forcing it to fight the people and kill the innocent. How long shall we bear this humiliation? Shall we wait for the day when the traitor to Iraq turns from annihilating the people to annihilating the Army? Saddam's schemes serve only Saddam and his cronies, not the State or the Army. Do not be duped as others were duped before you. Do not leave your future in the hands of a man who will dig you a grave in order to build a palace on it.